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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/764,750	01/18/2001	S. K. Lin	3158/01189	7989

7590

06/19/2003

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, JENNIFER T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2674

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/764,750

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL.

Examiner

Jennifer T Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is responsive to amendment filed on 4/1/2003.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1 and 3-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allen (U.S. Patent No. 6,366,292) in view of Nakano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,229,513).

Regarding claim 1, referring to Figs. 3 and 4, Allen teaches LCD monitor (38) comprising: a panel module having a gate driver and a source driver; a control board disposed on a first side of the panel module, comprising: an input interface (32) (Figs. 3 and 4) for receiving plural types video signal, adapted to select a first type video signal from the plural types of video signal and to generate a first video signal according to the first type video signal; a scaler module (34) (Figs. 3 and 4) comprises a time control unit (54, 56, 58) (Fig. 4), and is provided to receive the first digital video signal; a micro-processing device (42) (Fig. 3), adapted to output a control signal that controls the scaler module (34) to generate a gate/source-driving signal for the gate driver and the source driver according to the first digital video signal (col. 3, lines 53-67, col. 4, lines 1-19, lines 56-67, and col. 5, lines 1-2).

Allen differs from claim 1 in that he does not specifically teach a cover structure conjugating the frame structure in the aspect of the first side, and covering upon the first side of the panel module and the control board thereon. However, referring to Figs. 10-12, Nakano

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teaches a frame structure (SHD), covering the periphery of the panel module; and a cover structure (LF1, LF2) conjugating the frame structure (SHD) in the aspect of the first side, and covering upon the first side of the panel module and the control board thereon (col. 14, lines 28-55 and col. 15, lines 14). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the frame structure and cover structure as taught by Nakano in the system of Allen in order to protect the inner electronic devices.

Regarding claim 3, Allen further teaches the video signal is provided from a computer, and the digital signal comprises RGB signals (31a-31c) (Figs. 3 and 4, col. 3, lines 53-55).

Regarding claim 4, referring to Fig. 3, Allen further teaches the input interface comprises an A/D converter (32) (col. 3, lines 53-67).

Regarding claim 5, referring to Figs. 3 and 4, Allen further teaches the conventional LCD monitor (38) comprises input interface (32) is further adapted to select a second-type video signal from the plural types of video signals, and generate a second digital video signal according to the second-type video signal to the scaler module, and the micro-processing device (42) outputs a corresponding second control signal that controls the scaler module (34) to generate the gate/source-driving signal according to the second digital video signal, wherein the second-type video signal is from a video device (col. 3, line 53 to col. 4, line 2, and col. 4, lines 56-67).

Regarding claim 6, the combination of Allen and Nakano differs from claim 6 in that it does not specifically teach a switching board that is adapted to provide a switching signal to the scaler module, whereby adjusting the gate/source driving signal and regulating the performance of pictures displayed on the panel module. However, it would have been obvious to obtain switching board that is adapted to provide a switching signal to the scaler module, whereby

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adjusting the gate/source driving signal and regulating the performance of pictures displayed on the panel module in order to provide a better image for LCD monitor.

Regarding claim 7, the combination of Allen and Nakano teaches a power module (120) for supplying electric power to the LCD monitor (10) (col. 8, lines 16-20 of Nakano).

Regarding claims 8 and 9, the combination of Allen and Nakano teaches the power module comprises an AC/DC adapter for converting an alternating current source into at least one direct current source, wherein the direct current source is adapted to supply the LCD monitor direct currents (from col. 8, line 16 to col. 9, line 3 of Nakano).

Regarding claim 10, the combination of Allen Nakano teaches the cover structure is fabricated from materials for resisting electromagnetic effects (col. 2, lines 37-45 of Nakano).

4. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allen (U.S. Patent No. 6,366,292) in view of Nakano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,229,513) and further in view of Fergusson (U. S. Patent No. 6,404,533).

Regarding claim 2, the combination of Allen and Nakano differs from claim 2 in that it does not specifically teach video signals comprises an EDID signal. However, Fergusson discloses a video signal comprises an EDID signal (col. 5, lines 33-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the EDID signal as taught by Fergusson in the system of the combination of Allen and Nakano in order to provide a communicating protocol between a host computer and the LCD monitor.

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Jennifer T. Nguyen** whose telephone number is **703-305-3225**.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Richard A Hjerpe** can be reach at **703-305-4709**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, DC. 20231

Or faxed to: 703-872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, sixth-floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

Jennifer T. Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2674



**RICHARD HJERPE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600**